

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 22, 2022

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
The Speaker
House of Representatives
United States Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi,

We were pleased to learn that you intend to make an official visit to Taiwan during the August work period.¹ We strongly encourage you to reject the objections of China's rulers and President Biden² and proceed with your planned trip. As the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, you should never have to ask a foreign dictatorship or the State Department for permission to talk to America's friends and allies.

Prior to your departure, we would like to ask that you consider sending an even stronger message of support for deeper U.S.-Taiwan ties by scheduling a floor vote on H. Con. Res 21. This resolution calls for an end to the outdated and nonsensical "One China Policy," and the normalization of U.S.-Taiwan ties.

As you know, a growing number of experts, from former Defense Secretary Mark Esper³ to President Obama's former Taiwan envoy William Stanton,⁴ have recently cast doubt on the utility of this counter-productive policy – a policy which was never approved by Congress.

It is also worth noting that former President Carter's decision to normalize relations with the People's Republic of China (and cut off official ties with Taipei) was predicated on Beijing's commitment to resolve its differences with Taiwan peacefully. Nearly a half-century on, however, Chinese officials routinely threaten to annex Taiwan by force. This year alone, for example, People's Liberation Army aircraft have crossed into Taiwan's airspace nearly 600 times⁵ – ignoring this foundational assurance.

At the same time, the U.S. inexplicably refuses to recognize the legitimacy of Taiwan's duly elected government – putting it in the same category as regimes like those of Iran, North Korea and Syria. This makes no sense.

¹ <https://www.wsj.com/articles/nancy-pelosis-taiwan-education-china-taipei-military-defense-11658265311>

² <https://nypost.com/2022/07/20/biden-urges-pelosi-to-cancel-taiwan-trip-talking-soon-with-xi/>

³ <https://www.taipeitimes.com/News/front/archives/2022/07/20/2003782072>

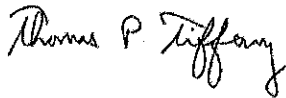
⁴ <https://www.taipeitimes.com/News/taiwan/archives/2019/01/27/2003708740>

⁵ <https://www.wsj.com/articles/nancy-pelosis-taiwan-education-china-taipei-military-defense-11658265311>

The world has undergone dramatic changes since the days of Richard Nixon and Jimmy Carter. Taiwan has become a vibrant, multi-party democracy, while China has become more oppressive, more belligerent, and more dangerous. Yet America's policy framework remains on autopilot, frozen in a 1970's time warp. It is time for Congress to revisit this policy and have an open and honest debate about how best to modernize it.

We wish you a productive and successful visit and thank you in advance for your favorable consideration.

Sincerely,



Tom Tiffany
Member of Congress



Scott Perry
Member of Congress